

An assistant's career . . .

"I didn't know what to expect. I feel I learned more about the company and the functions of the people here at Headquarters. You know, most people never see this: when you work in the store you don't imagine Headquarters like this," said Anthony Rogers.

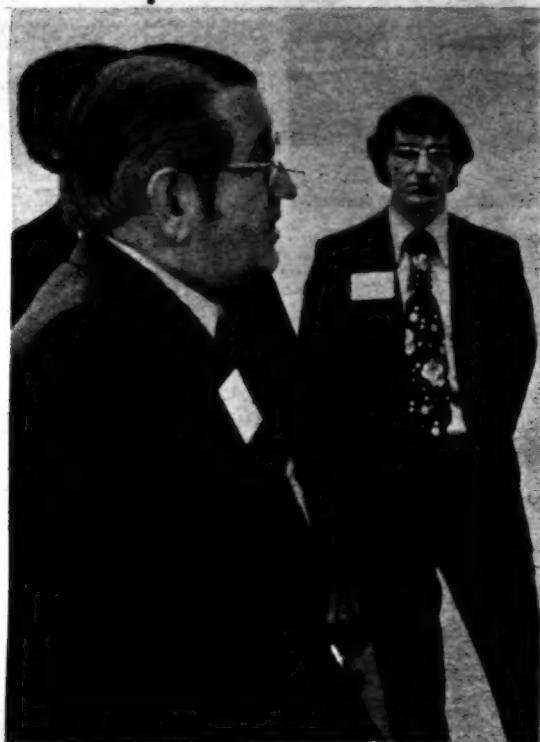
Tony, from K mart 4141, Columbia, SC, was one of 214 assistant managers attending the Assistant Managers' Seminar at International Headquarters in early May. Every young man and woman there had completed the bulk of their assistant's training and now stand near the brink of a management promotion.

Characteristically, assistants who attend the week-long seminar receive such a promotion within a year and a half.



"This makes you want to go back right now and pick up the list book and see what you've missed," Tony said of the seminar. Above, Tony examines merchandise with Roy Siegel, senior buyer, jewelry.

. . . sprints into the home stretch



"Mr. Wardlow excites me—his attitude and his interest. At all of our meetings, he's almost always there." Here Tony listens while President Wardlow speaks to a group of assistants visiting his office while on tour of Kresge International Headquarters.

"It makes you feel real good," Tony nodded, "to see your organization so well-run . . . to see so many working as a team."

The 27-year-old assistant worked at three stores before 4141: 4112, Asheville, NC; 3116, Wilmington, NC; and 3168, Columbia, SC. A graduate in business administration from West Carolina University, he has a wife, Linda, and three-year-old boy, Christopher.

"I never thought Headquarters was so gigantic. There's lots of departments I didn't expect to find.

"Lots of us had doubts about our expansion program. Can we handle it? Now I see there's a department to cover any problem that arises, and every possible future need seems to have been thought of already.

"In your own region, too, you think store management is it. You see here just how far you can go; they really mean unlimited opportunity."



"Everybody feels like they're the best. When you get here, though, you see your competition . . . the competition to excel."